

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-04

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FM AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6810

INFO AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

AMEMBASSY MANAGUA

AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA

AMEMBASSY PANAMA

AMEMBASSY MEXICO

AMEMBASSY ROME

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

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EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAID ECIN XK

SUBJ: CENTRAL AMERICAN/PANAMA MEETING OF THE ITALIAN-LATIN-
AMERICAN INSTITUTE

GUATEMALA ALSO FOR ROCAP

1. THE GOVERNMENT OF EL SALVADOR AND THE SECRETARIAT (SIECA) OF
THE CENTRAL AMERICAN COMMON MARKET WERE HOSTS OF THE FIRST EURO-
CENTRAL AMERICAN AND PANAMA INTERNATIONAL MEETING ORGANIZED BY
THE ITALIAN-LATIN AMERICAN INSTITUTE (INSTITUTO ITALO-LATINO-
AMERICANO) HELD IN SAN SALVADOR NOVEMBER 5 TO 8. PARTICIPANTS
INCLUDED REPRESENTATIVES FROM HEADQUARTERS OFFICES OF THE IFC
(FOR THE WORLD BANK GROUP) AND THE IDB. NOT ALL OF THE SIX
PARTICIPATING GOVERNMENTS SENT OFFICIAL DELEGATIONS BUT ALL WERE
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REPRESENTED BY LOCALLY ACCREDITED DIPLOMATIC AND/OR BUSINESS

ORGANIZATIONS FROM THEIR CAPITALS. SIECA'S CONTRIBUTION WAS IN STAFF SUPPORT AND THE GOES REPORTEDLY EXPENDED \$30,000 ON THE CONFERENCE TO DEFRAY ALL THE TRAVEL EXPENSES OF THE REGION'S AMBASSADORS TO ITALY WHO IN TURN ARE MEMBERS OF THE INSTITUTE. MEXICAN AMBASSADOR AT ROME, DR. NORBERTO TREVINO ZAPATA, AS THE INSTITUTE'S PRESIDENT, PRESIDED AT THE THREE DAYS' SESSIONS. ITALY'S DIRECTOR GENERAL OF THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE, DR. GUIDO FUCITO, WAS THE RANKING ITALIAN PARTICIPANT; HERNAN VAN DER LOOS WAS SPOKESMAN FOR THE EEC.

2. PRESIDENT MOLINA, FLANKED BY A GOOD REPRESENTATION OF HIS HIGHEST OFFICIALS, INAUGURATED THE SESSION. FOREIGN MINISTER

BORGONOVO AND THE LOCAL TRADE ASSOCIATIONS ASSISTED THE LOCAL ITALIAN AMBASSADOR IN THE HEAVY SCHEDULE OF SOCIAL EVENTS. PARTICIPANTS GENERALLY DESCRIBED THE SESSIONS AS HAVING MOVED FROM GENERALITIES AT FIRST TO HEAVY DISCUSSIONS AT THE TECHNICAL LEVEL ON ISSUES SUCH AS TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER, TOURISM, EXPORT PROMOTION, ETC. THE OBJECTIVE OF THE MEETING WAS NOT ENTIRELY CLEAR EVEN TO PARTICIPANTS, BUT THE UNDER SECRETARY OF FOREIGN RELATIONS, DR. CASTANEDA, PERHAPS SUMMED IT UP WELL SAYING IT IS PART OF THE GOES' STRATEGY OF "SPREADING ITS EGGS TO MORE BASKETS". INSTITUTE REPRESENTATIVES SAID THIS IS THE SECOND MEETING OF THE INSTITUTE IN ITS EIGHT YEARS. THE FIRST, HELD AT PUNTA DEL ESTE IN MARCH, WAS SAID TO HAVE FOSTERED IMPROVED RELATIONS WITH CUBA IN THAT CUBA ATTENDED AND PARTICIPATED IN A RESPONSIBLE WAY. IT WAS IMPLICIT THAT ADDITIONAL REGIONAL CONFERENCES ARE PLANNED BUT NOTHING SPECIFIC WAS HEARD.

3. THE GOES WENT ALL OUT FOR THE CONFERENCE IN TERMS OF FIELDING ITS HIGHEST LEVEL OFFICIALS AND BEST TECHNICIANS AND SCHEDULING SOCIAL ACTIVITIES. WHILE PARTICIPANTS CONTACTED BY EMBASSY OFFICERS WERE VAGUE ON REAL OR POTENTIAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS, THERE APPEARED BY THE END OF THE CONFERENCE A D PSE OF

IMPROVED COMMUNICATION AND UNDERSTANDING OF NEEDS BETWEEN EUROPEANS AND LATINS. DURING THE CONFERENCE, A TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AGREEMENT WAS SIGNED BETWEEN ITALY AND EL SALVADOR. WE DO NOT HAVE A COPY BUT IT IS REPORTED TO OFFER INCREASED TECHNICAL TRAINING SCHOLARSHIPS IN ITALY AND, PERHAPS THE MOST CONCRETE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ITEM, ASSISTANCE IN ESTABLISHING HERE A TRAINING INSTITUTE FOR TOURISM AND HOTEL PERSONNEL.
CAMPBELL

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